

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0022] of the published application as follows:

The present invention includes a composition used for the formation of electrodes for the construction of an MEA, where one or more of the electrodes are made from an ion-conducting sulfonated polymeric material. The composition is particularly advantageous when forming electrodes on a polymer exchange membrane formed of an ion-conducting sulfonated ~~sulfonated~~ polymer, where the membrane and the electrodes contain the same type of ion-conducting sulfonated polymer.

Please amend paragraph [0034] of the published application as follows:

Certain embodiments ~~embodiment~~ of the present invention described below use ~~uses~~ sulfonated polymers that include a sulfonated aromatic sulfone where there is at least one sulfonate moiety on an aromatic ring adjacent to a sulfone functional group of a polysulfone. The aromatic ring, due to its proximity to the sulfone group, is deactivated for sulfonation reactions. Sulfonation on the deactivated aromatic ring is accomplished by sulfonating the corresponding monomer followed by polymerization to form the polysulfone. In this way, sulfonation of the deactivated ring is maintained.